



Rocketeer II

Vol. 5, Issue 16

The official newspaper of the Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake community

Thursday, August 11, 2011



Parade of a thousand flags, remembering 9/11

For the first time since its inception eight years ago, the Navy is partnering with the Ridgecrest Exchange Club to join the nation in commemorating the horrible tragedy of Sept. 11, 2001.

"I am thrilled the Navy has been asked to partner with the organization," said Peggy Shoaf, NAWS public affairs officer. "We have always participated, but this is the first time we have been asked to be an official part of the team. I know that Navy and community partnership is a high priority not only for the installation and its tenant commands, but the region and the Chief of Naval Operations."

The Navy's role will be to provide military and Department of Defense civilians to take part in the parade, aide in the set up and tear down of the event, help provide speakers and other participants for the program following the parade and to promote the activities as widely as possible.

For the fourth year in a row, the Parade of 1,000 Flags will kick off the events, with staging at the intersection of Norma Street and West Ridgecrest Boulevard at 8:30 a.m. Starting at 9 a.m.,

1,000 Flags, Page 10

VX-9 change of command last week

By Michael Roach
Editor, Rocketeer II

Air Test and Evaluation Squadron NINE (VX-9), hosted its official change of command ceremony Aug. 4 at China Lake. Their hangar filled to the brim with Sailors, officers and civilians alike to say farewell to Capt. Don E. Berry and welcome Capt. Brett M. Pierson as the new Commanding Officer of the Vampires.

Born in Millville, New Jersey Berry began his command at China Lake in May 2010 and will now continue on to Edwards Air Force Base as the Deputy Combined Test Director, Joint Operational Test Team for the F-35. He graduated Aviation Officer Candidate School in May 1985 and was designated a Naval Aviator in Feb. 1987.

Since then, Berry has served aboard the U.S.S. Coral, Dwight D. Eisenhower and various other commands which have subsequently included operations such as Desert Shield, Southern Watch and Deny Flight. Eventually rising to his rank of Capt. and acquiring a master's degree

VX-9, Page 11



Photo by Adelle Collier

Rear Adm. David A. Dunaway speaks at the VX-9 change of command ceremony Aug. 4. With him on stage are (left to right) Capt. Don E. Berry, Capt. Brett M. Pierson, Commander Naval Air Forces U.S. Pacific Fleet Vice Adm. Allen G. Myers, and Lt. Chaplain Derrick E. Horne.

VX-31 helps rescue stranded hikers

A severe thunder and lightning storm passed through the Mount Whitney, Calif., recreation area on the afternoon of July 29 and stranded approximately 60 day hikers along the Mount Whitney trail above Whitney Portal. Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division (NAWCWD) Air Test and Evaluation Squadron (VX) 31 responded to a search and rescue (SAR) request from the U.S. Forest Service and Inyo County Sheriff's department.

The SAR crew of COSO 460 flew out at 6 a.m. and arrived at the Lone Pine, Calif., airport where they were briefed by the Inyo County sheriff and mountain rescue ground crews. COSO 460 then flew five rescue personnel into the mountainous area and dropped them in two locations near Mirror Lake, then returned to the Lone Pine airport to await further tasking. By noon, all civilian and



Official Navy photo

rescue personnel had safely hiked out on the Mount Whitney Trail. COSO 460 returned to China Lake without incident.

Have your badge ready before you reach the gate

By Peggy Shoaf
NAWS Public Affairs

Recent changes to NAWS China Lake base access procedures are causing delays at all gates during peak times of the day. The resulting frustration has generated many comments and inquiries.

The base access policy is that all hands are to present their base access credential to the guard as it was issued. It cannot be in any kind of holder or case. The card must be surrendered to the guard for physical inspection. Observations of recent access operations have determined that while a physical inspection of the access card does delay

Badges, Page 13

Feds Feed Families

All-Faith Chapel partners with local food banks to assist local families



Photo by Jessica Armstrong

The All-Faith Chapel's RP3 Micchicco Hunter (left) and Lt. Chaplain Derrick Horne (right) drop off food at the Chapel's food pantry which is hosted by the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society. The food was collected as part of the nation-wide Feds Feed Families food drive. According to Linda Anderson (center), a caseworker for NMCRS, the pantry assists an average of 20 service members and their families each month. Through Aug. 30, Commander, Navy Installations Command installations are collecting donations of non-perishable food items to distribute to local community food pantries. Since July 14, nearly 2,000 pounds of food collected at China Lake have been distributed to pantries in Ridgecrest Inyokern and Trona. For a list of collection locations across China Lake, please visit the NAWS China Lake website at <https://www.cnic.navy.mil/ChinaLake/About/CommunityRelations/CommunityService/index.htm>.

All Faith Chapel

Command Chaplain Lt. Derrick Horne

Rev. James Dowds, Catholic priest

Activities:

Airfield Bible Study:
each Wednesday from 1130-1230
at the VX-9 Airfield Training
Room (on the west side of the
Bat's Mess).

Ladies Do Lunch:
Tuesday, June 14 at 12 p.m. in
East Wing.

Ladies of the Chapel-High Tea:
Thursday June 16 at 6 p.m. (East
Wing).

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CHAPEL OFFICE

Located between the East Wing
and the Main Chapel

CATHOLIC SERVICES

Services are held at the
Main Chapel
Father James Dowds, C.Ss.R.
james.dowds.ctr@navy.mil

Daily Masses: 11:30 a.m.
Monday through Wednesday
Blessed Sacrament Chapel
Sunday Mass:
(Saturday vigil for Sunday):
Saturday: 4 p.m.
Sunday: 9 a.m.

Altar Society:
9:30 a.m. Tuesdays (prayer,
work and Coffee and doughnuts)

Confession:
Sacraments of Reconciliation
11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Monday
through Wednesday;
2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturdays

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president
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doctajune@gmail.com

MUSLIM SERVICES

Eid Khatib, president
(760) 371-1226
Jumaa Prayer:
Fridays at 1 p.m.
Religious Education Building

PROTESTANT SERVICES

Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m.
Main Chapel

Adult Sunday School:
9 a.m., East Wing

Protestant Women of the Cross
(PWOC)

Mary-Martha and Elizabeth
Circle: Time and place to be
announced in Chapel Service

Rocketeer II



NAWS China Lake

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Executive Officer Cmdr. Lee "Navin" Johnson
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- Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division and Explosive Ordnance Detachment Mobile Unit 3: NAWCWD Public Affairs at (760) 939-3511
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 - Air Test and Evaluation Squadron NINE: Lt. Bryan Haney at bryan.haney@navy.mil, or call (760) 939-5525
 - Marine Aviation Detachment: Lt. Col. James Coppersmith at james.coppersmith@navy.mil or (760) 939-8094
 - Naval Facilities Engineering Command: Patricia Sbrocca at psbrocca@navy.mil, or call (760) 939-0082
 - Branch Health Clinic: Lt. Cmdr. Richard Stacey at richard.stacey@med.navy.mil, or call (760) 939-8002
 - Navy Expeditionary Combat Command: CWO3 John Hammond at john.d.hammond@navy.mil, or call (760) 939-6341
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Communication Resources

Naval Air Weapons Station:
www.cnic.navy.mil/chinalake

Naval Air Warfare Center
Weapons: www.navair.navy.mil/nawc wd

Social Media

NAWS China Lake can now be found on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/NAWSChinaLake>, Twitter at https://twitter.com/NAWS_CL and Flickr at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/nawschinalake>.

A YouTube channel is currently under development and can be accessed at <https://www.youtube.com/NAWSChinaLake>. Use of any of these channels is totally voluntary and not a requirement.

Rocketeer II online:
<http://www.chinalakenews.com>

Navy Family Ombudsman

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760-384-8948

naws_ombudsman@yahoo.com

VX-9:

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(760) 301-2905

VX9ombudsman@yahoo.com

VX-31:

Teresa Draves
(207) 751-5047

VX31_ombudsman@yahoo.com

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The 24 hour, 7 days a week response line is (760) 608-7745.

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Military

New at NEX

Coupon policy allows customers to save even more

NEX recently made changes to its coupon redemption policy to ensure customers can take advantage of the many coupons available in the marketplace. In 2010, 1.6 million coupons were redeemed by NEX customers. Those coupons added up to a savings of over \$2 million for NEX shoppers.

“Over the past few years, couponing has become a way of life for many shoppers,” said Richard Dow, Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) senior vice president Operations. “We have revamped our NEX coupon policy so customers can save even more when they shop in one of our stores.”

NEX accepts valid manufacturer’s coupons for the item featured on the coupon subject to its terms and conditions. Online Internet coupons can also be redeemed at any NEX, except for online coupons for free products and Proctor & Gamble products. However, only one

manufacturer’s coupon can be applied to a product in the same transaction. NEX does not “double” or “triple” the face value of a manufacturer’s coupon.

NEX will also accept scratch-off coupons, percent and cents-off coupons from the Army Air Force Exchange System (AAFES), the Marine Corps Exchange System (MCX) and the Coast Guard Exchange System (CGX).

These can be percent and cents-off in-store coupons, coupons presented in a coupon book or printed from Facebook. One exception is that NEX does not accept any military service exchange coupon for cents off gasoline.

NEX will accept more than one coupon at a time on the same item, such as a manufacturer’s coupon and a NEX coupon or coupon from another military exchange service. The combination of the two coupons cannot exceed the price of the

product; money will not be returned to a customer on the redemption of two coupons.

Expired cents off manufacturer’s coupons for up to six months past the expiration date are only accepted at overseas NEXs, including Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. “This allows our customers in overseas locations to utilize short-dated and expired coupons that are often forwarded by support groups in the U.S. to overseas locations,” said Dow. NEXs in the continental United States and Pearl Harbor do not accept expired coupons.

“If customers have a question about our coupon policy, I encourage them to talk with their NEX store manager,” said Dow. “We want our customers to understand the policy so they can be confident about using coupons at their NEX.”

Remember, customers receive a five cent credit toward their purchase for each eco-friendly reusable bag used to bag their

Furniture and mattress offer

The NEX and MILITARY STAR® Card program have teamed up to provide customers with a special offer on furniture, major appliances and mattresses priced at \$499 or more.

From Aug. 31 - Sept. 11, customers will have no down payment, no interest and no payments for 360 days when using their MILITARY STAR® Card to purchase furniture from Ashley, Davis, Franklin, Corinthian and Progressive, or mattresses made by Simmons, Serta and Tempur Pedic.

Customers can also purchase

major appliances from Kenmore, Whirlpool, GE, Maytag, LG, Samsung and Frigidaire.

The MILITARY STAR® Card offers many benefits including 10 percent off the first day’s purchases (up to the customer’s credit limit), no annual fee, low interest rate and 24-hour customer service including online access.

MILITARY STAR® Card applications are available at any NEX. The application can be processed the same day at the NEX customer service desk.

Become a Facebook fan and follow the NEX on Twitter.

The Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) is headquarters for the worldwide Navy Exchange System that oversees 103 Navy Exchange facilities and its 300 stores worldwide; 42 Navy Lodges; Ship’s Stores; Uniform Program Management Office and Navy Family Support Programs. NEXCOM’s mission is to provide authorized customers quality goods and services at a savings and to support quality of life programs for active duty military, retirees, reservists and their families. The Navy Exchange enterprise operates primarily as a non-appropriated fund (NAF) business instrumentality. Revenues generated are used to support Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) programs. In FY08, \$2.5 billion in sales were generated with over \$45 million in profits provided to Navy MWR programs.

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Military

This week in U.S. Navy history

Aug. 11

1812 - USS Constitution captures and destroys brig Lady Warren.

1877 - Professor Asaph Hall of Naval Observatory discovers first of two satellites of Mars. He found the second one within a week.

1921 - Carrier arresting gear first tested at Hampton Roads.

1960 - USNS Longview (T-AGM3), using Navy helicopters and frogmen, recovers a Discover satellite capsule after 17 orbits. This is the first recovery of a U.S. satellite from orbit.

Aug. 12

1812 - USS Constitution captures and destroys brig Adeona.

1918 - Secretary of the Navy approves acceptance of women as yeoman in U.S. Navy.

1944 - Lt. Joseph P. Kennedy Jr., USNR, the older brother of John F. Kennedy, was killed with his co-pilot in a mid-air explosion after taking off from England in a PB-4Y from Special Attack Unit One (SAU-1). Following manual takeoff, they were supposed to parachute out over the English Channel while the radio-controlled explosive filled drone proceeded to attack a German V-2 missile-launching site. Possible causes include faulty wiring or FM signals from a nearby transmitter.

Aug. 13

1777 - American explosive device made by David Bushnell explodes near British vessel off New London, Conn.

1846 - Joint expedition led by Cmdr. Robert Stockton seizes Los Angeles, Calif.

1870 - Armed tug Palos becomes

first U.S. Navy ship to transit Suez Canal.

Aug. 14

1813 - HMS Pelican captures USS Argus.

1886 - Secretary of the Navy establishes Naval Gun Factory at Washington Navy Yard.

1945 - Japan agrees to surrender; last Japanese ships sunk during World War II.

Aug. 15

1845 - The U.S. Naval Academy is established at Annapolis, Md., on former site of Fort Severn.

1908 - First Navy post offices established in Navy ships.

1944 - Operation Dragoon, Allied invasion of Southern France.

Aug. 16

1812 - USS Constitution recaptures American merchant brig Adeline.

1954 - Beginning of Operation Passage to Freedom, the transport of refugees from Haiphong to Saigon, Vietnam.

Aug. 17

1812 - Frigate President captures British schooner L'Adeline in North Atlantic.

1942 - Submarines USS Nautilus (SS 168) and USS Argonaut (SS 166) land 222 Marines on Makin Island; first amphibious attack made from submarines.

1959 - Adm. Arleigh Burke re-appointed as Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) for third two-year term, serving longest term as CNO.

1962 - Navy's first hydrofoil patrol craft, USS High Point (PCH 1) launched at Seattle, Wash.

ACC James D. Page retires



Photo by Michael Roach

ACC James D. Page is piped over the side at his retirement ceremony on July 27. He walks with his girlfriend and the rest of their family down the aisle to close the ceremony. A native of Arkansas, Page spent 20 years serving in the Navy and has now returned home to Benton, Ark.

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Doris Mae (Forth) (Lukens) Shepherd passed away peacefully surrounded by family on Friday, July 29th 2011 after a 14-year battle with cancer. Doris was born July 23, 1933 in Hickory Creek Oklahoma, to Ruby Alvena (Trotter) Forth & Floyd Leroy Forth. She moved to Ridgecrest in 1954 from Torrance California and remained a resident of the Indian Wells Valley (Ridgecrest and China Lake) up to the time of her death. Doris worked at China Lake from 1954 to 1969 where she was an office clerk and then returned to work 1980 to 1998 where she retired as the Branch Head of the Distribution Section of TID. Doris was affectionately known by most as 'Distribution Doris'.

Doris loved sewing, her children and grandchildren, her rose garden, her pets, and her involvement in the Society of Creative Anachronism (SCA). She was a member of the local Barony of Naevehjem, which is part of the Kingdom of Caid of the SCA. Doris was Court Baroness within the Kingdom of Caid and was addressed as Her Excellency Baroness Anne of Crowhurst.

Doris married the love of her life John Cecil Shepherd on March 23, 1969 in San Francisco and honeymooned in Hawaii after an ocean cruise to the islands. Doris and John had recently celebrated their 42nd wedding anniversary with family in March of this year. She is survived by her husband, John, and their children (Mary Lynn Larson and her husband Albert "Bud" of Wallace Michigan, Anthony "Tony" Michael Shepherd and his wife Linda of Ridgecrest, Jeffrey Cecil Shepherd of Bakersfield, Jennifer Anne Shepherd of Bakersfield), grandchildren (Joshua Shepherd and his wife Nana of San Diego, Warren and Matthew Shepherd of Bakersfield), great grand daughter Hikari Elizabeth Shepherd of San Diego, her sister Mary Robinson of Galt, CA and numerous nieces and nephews.

Her mother and father, her older sister Joan Chance and her younger brother Donald Forth, preceded Doris in death.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations should be made to a Cancer charity of your choice.

Cornelis Vanderhoek, MD, FACP



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Military/News

VX-9 Vampires climb B-Mountain Leaders offer condolences in wake of helicopter crash



Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Orrin Batiste

July 15, the members of VX-9 climbed B-Mountain to celebrate the recent kick off of their new physical training program. They started the climb early morning and once they reached the top, they had one of their UH-1Y Huey helicopter's fly over allowing them to capture a photo of the group. VX-9 is hoping to encourage members to actively participate in the physical training program for overall improved health and fitness.

WASHINGTON-- Senior U.S. leaders extended condolences Aug. 6 to the families of American and Afghan forces lost in an International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) helicopter crash in eastern Afghanistan.

Thirty ISAF service members, a civilian interpreter and seven Afghan commandos were killed when a coalition CH-47 Chinook crashed early Saturday ISAF Joint Command officials said in a news release. All of the ISAF service members on board were from the United States.

The incident, officials said, represents the highest number of U.S. forces killed during a single event in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

An investigation is under way to determine the exact cause of the crash, officials added, noting that additional details will be provided as they become available.

In the wake of the crash,

senior leaders issued statements to offer their condolences to the service members' loved ones.

"My thoughts and prayers go out to the families and loved ones of the Americans who were lost earlier today in Afghanistan," President Barack Obama said. "Their deaths are a reminder of the extraordinary sacrifices made by the men and women of our military and their families, including all who have served in Afghanistan."

"We also mourn the Afghans who died alongside our troops in pursuit of a more peaceful and hopeful future for their country."

Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta also expressed his sorrow for the loss.

"I am deeply saddened by the loss of many outstanding Americans in uniform and of their Afghan counterparts earlier today in Afghanistan," he said. "Their courage was exemplary, as was their

Condolences, Page 9

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Command Safety Message

Motorcycle safety... rules of the road

There are over 4 million motorcycles registered in the United States. The popularity of this mode of transportation is attributed to the often low initial cost of a motorcycle, its use as a pleasure vehicle and, for some models, the good fuel efficiency. Motorcycle fatalities represent approximately five percent of all highway fatalities each year, yet motorcycles represent just two percent of all registered vehicles in the United States. One of the main reasons motorcyclists are more likely to suffer serious or fatal injuries in mishaps is because the motorcycle itself provides virtually no protection in a crash. For example, approximately 80 percent of reported motorcycle crashes result in injury or death; a comparable figure for automobiles is about 20 percent.

It is obvious that an automobile has more weight and bulk than a motorcycle. It has door beams and a roof to provide some measure of protection from impact or rollover. It has cushioning and airbags to soften impact and safety belts to hold passengers in their seats. It has windshield washers and wipers to assist visibility in the rain and snow. An automobile has more stability because it's on four wheels, and because of its size, it is easier to see. A motorcycle suffers in comparison when considering vehicle characteristics that directly contribute to occupant safety. What a motorcycle sacrifices in weight, bulk, and other crashworthiness characteristics is somewhat offset by its agility, maneuverability, ability to stop quickly, and ability to swerve quickly when necessary.

Training:

All motorcyclists should attend a motorcycle rider-training course to learn how to safely and skillfully operate a motorcycle. In fact, anyone riding on base, or military members riding on or off base, must complete a Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) certified basic rider course. More information on training requirements are outlined in OPNAVINST 5100.12H, "Navy Traffic Safety Program." If you are a DoD employee or active duty, sign up for a local course through ESAMS at https://esams.cnic.navy.mil/ESAMS_GEN_2/LoginEsams.aspx. If a military retiree, Navy dependant or retiree dependant,

Calendar Year 2011 OSHA Recordable Mishap Update through June :

37

- 1) CL Police: Stepped off curb to wipe snow from vehicle's base access sticker and slipped on ice.
- 2) CL Police: Slipped and fell on ice patch going down stairs to help another employee who had fallen on ice.
- 3) J26000D: Slipped and fell on patch of ice while exiting the building.
- 4) N9: Laceration on hand when 8 inch knife slipped while cutting string off of towel bundles.
- 5) 418300D: Strained elbow moving crates while collecting helicopter parts.
- 6) 472400D: Strained back while lowering missile into container during packing operation.
- 7) CL Police: Tripped over floor mat used to cover heater cable at guard post and twisted knee.
- 8) 418000D: Employee was torching metal when hot slag landed in ear canal.
- 9) 52540MD: Attempted to lift air conditioning compressor into back of truck and strained shoulder.
- 10) 418300D: Strained shoulder while climbing a 20 foot caged ladder.
- 11) 476300D: Lacerated finger when attempting to close a 3 inch pocket knife.
- 12) 485500D: Strained back while packing boxes for an upcoming move to a new building.
- 13) N9: Strained back after being knocked down by a child while providing care at SAC facility.
- 14) N9: Rolled ankle when foot slipped off of the side of an uneven sidewalk during housekeeping duties.
- 15) N9: Contusion/strain to top of foot when foot struck crib during fire evaluation drill.
- 16) N9: Pain in left knee while kneeling and standing during tile rip out procedures in pool locker room.
- 17) 470000D: Tripped and fell in CLPL parking lot resulting in multiple fractures.
- 18) 526210D: Lacerated finger while bouncing pry bar on a spool of steel banding.
- 19) Fire Dept: Pulled muscle in back/neck while doing pull-up exercises in Fire Station Dorm.
- 20) 474000D: Hit head on metal structural beam while standing up from a kneeling position.
- 21) CL Police: Allergic reaction to OC Pepper Spray during police training exercise.
- 22) 466200D: Skin irritation from exposure to chemical in water while TDY conducting mishap investigation.
- 23) CL Police: Insect bite to leg resulted in bodily reaction, fever, and swelling at the site.
- 24) N9: Strained back while attempting to stop a run-away utility golf cart during grounds maintenance.
- 25) N9: Finger laceration while trimming meat in preparation for lunch service.
- 26) 526200D: Electric shock experienced when doing a voltage check on a foreign radar system.
- 27) N9: Shoulder pain while changing bed linens during housekeeping of BOQ.
- 28) 741000D: Tripped on aircraft tie down eyelet on airfield tarmac and fell injuring shoulder.
- 29) 52322MD: After light lifting, exited GMV truck and felt pain in lower back.
- 30) 6C0000D: Laceration to finger while using box cutter to scrape stickers off equipment
- 31) N9: Fell in Child Development Center kitchen when foot caught on food serving cart.
- 32) 472200D: Injured back while lifting a test table (125-150lbs) into pick-up truck.
- 33) 783400D: Back and shoulder strain after falling in parking lot.
- 34) 418300D: Fell from forklift while attempting to wash windshield – bruises and strain.
- 35) N9: Pain/pull in groin area when lifting case of toilet paper during custodial duties.
- 36) N9: Shoulder/arm strain when moving "Bounce House" after evening event.
- 37) 753000D: Strained back while lifting and moving a 25" CRT style television set into van.

go to www.navymotorcyclerrider.com to register to attend on a space available basis. Courses are available for beginning riders, advanced or experienced riders, and sport bike riders. In addition, refresher training is required every three years.

Contractor personnel, while required to take an MSF-certified course to operate a motorcycle on base, are not eligible to take the Navy sponsored course. Contract personnel can go to the MSF website to search for the closest available course. Contract personnel are not required to renew their training every three years.

After completing a motorcycle training course, continue to practice before going out on the street. Depending on what type of bike you have, find an off-highway area or vacant parking lot and practice until use of all controls becomes automatic

and you become thoroughly accustomed to requirements for balance, making turns, stopping and shifting.

Remember that a motorcyclist must abide by the same traffic rules and regulations as other motorists. Before taking your motorcycle on a public road, become familiar with traffic rules and regulations and any special requirements for motorcycles. A motorcyclist has to be more careful and aware at intersections, where most motorcycle-vehicle collisions occur. Motorcyclists must remain visible to other motorists at all times and never ride in a car's "No Zone" (blind spot), and always anticipate what may happen more than other drivers on the road. Motorcyclists also must be more cautious when riding in inclement weather, on slippery surfaces, or when encountering obstacles on the

roadway.

Drinking and riding:

Approximately half of all fatal single-vehicle motorcycle crashes involve alcohol. A motorcycle requires more skill and coordination to operate than a car. Riding a motorcycle while under the influence of any amount of alcohol significantly decreases an operator's ability to operate the motorcycle safely. Never drink and ride. Alcohol slows reflexes and greatly limits your ability to operate a motorcycle. Even a very small amount of alcohol can reduce your ability to operate a motorcycle safely.

Licensing:

An estimated 33 percent of motorcycle operators in fatal traffic mishaps are not licensed or are improperly licensed to operate a motorcycle. By not obtaining a motorcycle operator license, riders are bypassing the only method they and state

licensing agencies have to ensure that the rider has the knowledge and skill needed to safely and skillfully operate a motorcycle. Obtain your learner's permit or motorcycle endorsement on your driver's license before you venture onto the streets. You will be required to display the knowledge and skill needed to operate a motorcycle safely before being issued a motorcycle operator's license.

Be aware that riding with a passenger requires even more skill than riding alone. Riding with a passenger should be delayed until you have considerable solo riding time and are ready to take on the responsibility of carrying a passenger.

Protective clothing and equipment:

Studies show that the head, arms, and legs are most often injured in a crash. Protective clothing and equipment serve a three-fold purpose for motorcyclists: comfort and protection from the elements; some measure of injury protection; and through use of color or reflective material, a means for other motorists to see the motorcyclist.

Helmet: This is the most important piece of equipment. Safety helmets save lives by reducing the extent of head injuries in the event of a crash. Many good helmets are available. Make sure it fits comfortably and snugly, and is fastened for the ride. Helmets shall be worn on-base and must be Department of Transportation or Snell Memorial Foundation certified. The DOT label on helmets constitutes the manufacturer's certification that the helmet conforms to the federal standard. In many states, use of a helmet is required by law. Passengers should also wear a helmet. A consumer information brochure on how to choose and care for a motorcycle helmet is available from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW, NTS-22, Washington, DC 20590.

Eye Protection: Since many motorcycles don't have windshields, riders must protect their eyes against insects, dirt, rocks or other airborne matter. Even the wind can cause the eyes to tear and blur vision, and good vision is imperative when riding. Choose good quality goggles, wrap around glasses with plastic or safety lenses, or a helmet equipped with a face shield. Goggles, glasses and face shields should be scratch free, shatter proof and well ventilated to prevent

News

Total Force Strategy and Management awards employees for length of service



Official Navy photo

Total Force Strategy and Management managers held their annual employee appreciation luncheon for department employees and support personnel Aug. 4. Richard Cracraft, director of Total Force Strategy and Management, presented length of service awards to the following employees, left to right: Dana Hyatt (10 years), Antonette Ayers (20 years), Glennis Ribblett (10 years), Betty Miller (20 years), Royce DeLeon (25 years), Debra Nelson (10 years), Julie Gervais (15 years). Not pictured: Mark Meyer (5 years).

Condolences, Page 7

determination to make this a safer world for their countries and for their fellow citizens.

“We will stay the course to complete that mission, for which they and all who have served and lost their lives in Afghanistan have made the ultimate sacrifice. They and their families are in my thoughts, in my prayers and in my heart.”

Marine Corps Gen. John R. Allen, ISAF commander, added his condolences.

“No words describe the sorrow we feel in the wake of this tragic loss,” the general said. “All of those killed in this operation were true heroes who had already given so much in the defense of freedom. Their sacrifice will not be forgotten.

“Our thoughts and prayers are with the families who are now waiting for their loved ones to return home. We will do everything in our power to support them in this time of need.

“We also mourn the loss of

our heroic Afghan partners who fight with us shoulder to shoulder, every day.”

The United States will draw inspiration from the lives of those who were lost, Obama said, and continue the work of securing the country and standing up for the values they embodied.

“At this difficult hour,” the president added, “all Americans are united in support of our men and women in uniform who serve so that we can live in freedom and security.”

For more news from the Department of Defense, visit www.dod.gov.

For more news from the U.S. Navy, visit www.navy.mil.



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The Ridgecrest United Methodist Church is sponsoring a new Mothers of Preschoolers program every Tuesday beginning September 6th from 9 am to 11 am at 639 North Norma.

MOPS teaches parenting and nutrition skills, Christian family values, and offers a safe community for mothers and children. All religious backgrounds are welcome. Yearly membership fee is covered by RUMC.

Visit www.umcrc.us or contact Amy Ochoa at 760/375-7434 for more info or to register.

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Best practices win race to South Pole

By Robert F. Brands
and
Jeff Zbar

The following article is part of an ongoing series featuring innovation. If you are involved in an innovative program or have thoughts about innovation in general, contact Kelli Cutts at (760) 939-0591, or via email at kelli.cutts@navy.mil to learn more about how to submit an article detailing your department's innovation.

One hundred years ago, two men set out on a race to the South Pole. Englishman Robert Falcon Scott and Norwegian Roald Amundsen were experienced explorers. They knew the polar conditions of Antarctica. They knew that with reward came inherent risk.

Their shared tale is one about best practices versus innovation. One relied on mere "innovation" to master a frozen continent. The other innovated best practices he had learned through years of intensive research.

One traveled to the South Pole, planted his nation's flag as the first, and returned safely. The other reached the pole, saw he had been beaten, and paid the ultimate price for his poorly planned expedition.

Amundsen blended modern innovation with time-tested best practices common among people who lived in extremes. Scott relied mostly on what he thought was innovation, but in fact was a poor reinvention of the wheel.

This is an important lesson for any business, venture, man or mission.

Amundsen meticulously researched Antarctica. He spent a year living with Eskimos. He knew arctic conditions and modeled his outerwear selection on the furs common among the local people. He knew that dogs and sleds were the best means of travel atop deep snow and ice. But Amundsen improved upon modern sleds by making them longer and narrower so as to spread their weight across a greater length. To pull them, he brought 53 dogs.

Scott rushed his Terra Nova expedition's planning. He thought 19 ponies, 33 dogs (as back up) and three motor sledges would suffice. He and his crew of 24 dressed in woolen clothing. His was a rushed expedition.

Amundsen also knew the region. From prior exploration, he knew that the Bay of Wales, or Ross Ice Shelf, had not moved in 80 years. It would provide the best protection for his ship and base camp from unrelenting winds. He built and provisioned three larger base camps – so as not to have to carry food with them the entire journey and markers with food at every degree South.

Amundsen's camps and ample provisions kept his team and remaining dogs alive, Scott endured a different fate. His wools absorbed perspiration, which froze in the sub-zero temperatures. His horses' hooves broke through snow and

thin ice; the animals didn't have the stamina for such conditions. Weak and starving, they were shot en route.

In the end, Amundsen made it to the South Pole and returned to his base camp. In January 1912, Scott's team arrived at the South Pole – one month after Amundsen. (See "Race for the South Pole" by Roland Huntford for a side-by-side unedited journal entries).

Having planned for horses to make the return trip in short order, Scott and his men were insufficiently provisioned to make the return trek by foot. Ultimately, they perished in the white-out of a driving blizzard within miles from the final base camp.

What Amundsen knew – and Scott paid the ultimate price for not realizing – is that following well-modeled best practices are an imperative of smart innovation. Once best practices are learned, you then can innovate atop that. In any venture – whether a new business or exploration of seemingly uncharted terrain – innovation is key. Innovation drives growth and becomes the foundation for success. But, it's vital that innovation is laid atop best practices.

In the end, Amundsen's name is planted – along with Norway's flag – as the innovating pioneer who first reached the South Pole. Scott's name, sadly, stands as an abject lesson in how haste and poor planning can prove fatal to man and mission alike.



Courtesy photo

Robert F. Brands is the founder of InnovationCoach.com, and the author of "Robert's Rules of Innovation: A 10-Step Program for Corporate Survival," co-authored by Martin Kleinman.

1,000 flags, Front Page

the parade, with up to 1,000 people carrying the United States flag, will go east on Ridgecrest Boulevard and turn south down China Lake Boulevard to west on California Avenue to Freedom Park, where the flags will be displayed until Saturday morning.

"It's all about carrying our flag," said Pat Farris, owner of the News Review and coordinator of the event. Seeing the 1,000 flags being carried down Ridgecrest Boulevard "it's spectacular," she said.

Following the parade will be a short program honoring firefighters, law enforcement, emergency and military personnel. A part of the ceremony will also include participants becoming a 1,000-voice choir, singing "God Bless America."

The event concludes Sunday evening, Sept. 11, with a candlelight vigil at dusk in Freedom Park.

Volunteers are being sought



Official Navy photo

The Parade of 1,000 Flags marches down Ridgecrest Blvd during last year's commemorative festivities.

to take part in this year's 9/11 Remembrance Field activities, including the parade of 1,000 flags. Each command will be asked to provide military personnel and DoD civilians to represent their command and/or code in the parade. People wanting to volunteer to participate outside of their commands, can still volunteer to be a flag bearer as a community member.

Commands and codes wanting to participate should call the NAWS Public Affairs Office at (760) 939-1683. NAWS PAO will turn in the names of the commands and codes, as well as the estimated numbers they hope to have participating, to the event coordinator. A final count of the numbers will be needed by Sept. 5.

Community members (individuals not representing a command or code) wanting to participate should call (760) 371-4301



NAWCWD award winners

In the July 28 issue of the Rocketeer II, the captions for the following awards photos were inadvertently switched. Shown here is the correct info and the corresponding images.



Photo by Dan O'Connor

Left to right: Dave Janiec and Scott O'Neil presented the Warfighter Support award to the high-speed anti-radiation missile (HARM) Block 5A group for their work on the HARM missile project. Team members included left to right: Kenneth Beck, Ken Claunch, Virginia Collins, David Cordes, Huong My Le, Billie Evans, Dorothy Leuallen, Dennis Ikenoyama, John Scanlon, Mark Passwater, Walter Runkle, Seth Schlotfeldt and Michael Murphy. Awardees not shown are: Leanna Claunch, Paul Miller, Miguel Rosales, David Blackburn, Lt. Cmdr. Kyle Bockey, Steven Bridges, Norman Kauppi, Stanley Jacobsen, David Kenny, Thomas Marshall and Lt. Robert Merritt.



Photo by Dan O'Connor

The ROVER Rapid Response team also received the Warfighter Support award for their work on the H-60 FLIR Downlink System. Left to right: Dave Janiec, John Zipp, Samuel Schoenhals, Terryl Mitchell, Thang Nguyen, Leonard Meuse, Axel Alvarez, Barry Douglas, Ricky Howell and Scott O'Neil. Awardees not shown are: Matthew Artelt, Lt. Cmdr. David Britton, Christopher Coster, William Gormley, Robert Keathley, Behzad Lessany-Abdi, Christopher Melendez, Patricia Siegel, Gabriel Waliser and Britt Wheatley.

VX-9, Front Page

in engineering space operations from the University of Colorado. Berry has logged over 4,000 flight hours, 3,300 of which were in an F/A-18 and 830 for arrested landings on 10 different aircraft carriers.

During his farewell speech to China Lake and VX-9, Berry was quick to thank all of those who had made his time here more hospitable. As he did this, he spoke of the importance of legacy left behind at China Lake and in life.

"There are so many Sailors and Marines I'd love to single out and thank but my speech would triple in length. You guys have all done great. Thank you," said Berry.

Pierson graduated from the U.S.

Naval Academy in 1987. In 1997, he was named as the Force Test Pilot of the year after graduating from University of Tennessee with a master's degree in aviation systems. He has logged 3,500 flight hours in 53 different aircraft including the P-51 Mustang, F-4 Phantom, MIG-15, A-10 Warthog, F-14 Tomcat and F-15 Eagle.

"This is a really cool job. No other squadron commander has nine different types of airplanes. No other squadron commander gets to put his hands on every piece of new equipment we build for the warfighter. No other squadron commander gets to work with this set of Sailors and Marines and be in charge of the Vampire Team," said Pierson.

Motorcycle Safety, Page 8

fog buildup. Only clear shields should be used at night since tinted shields reduce contrast and make it more difficult to see. Even if your motorcycle has a windshield, eye protection is recommended.

Jackets and Trousers: Clothing worn when riding a motorcycle should provide some measure of protection from abrasion in the event of an accident. These should be of durable material (e.g., special synthetic material or leather). Jackets should have long sleeves. Trousers (not shorts) should not be baggy or flared at the bottom to prevent entanglement with the chain, kick starter, foot-pegs, or

other protrusions on the sides of a motorcycle.

Footwear: Proper footwear affords protection for the feet, ankles and lower parts of the legs. The Navy requires motorcycle operators to wear "sturdy, over the ankle footwear." Leather boots are best. Sandals, sneakers and similar footwear should not be used since they provide little protection from abrasion or a crushing impact. Avoid dangling laces that can get in the way.

Visibility: Upper body clothing should be brightly colored. Some riders wear lightweight reflective orange or yellow vests over jackets. Retro-reflective material used on clothing, helmet and the motorcycle

helps to make the rider visible to other motorists, especially at night. A high percentage of car-vehicle crashes occur because the driver of the other vehicle failed to see the rider in time to avoid the crash.

OPNAVINST 5100.12H, "Navy Traffic Safety Program," outlines all the requirements to ride a motorcycle is that you are a military member operating a motorcycle on or off base or are a civilian that intends to operate a motorcycle on base. If you have any questions about the local Motorcycle Safety Program, contact the China Lake Safety Office at (760) 939-2315. Enjoy the ride....safely!!

NEWS/ Human Resources

NAWS China Lake opens to community in celebration of naval aviation

By Jessica Armstrong
NAWS Public Affairs

Not since 1989, when the last air show was held at then Naval Air Weapons Center China Lake, has the installation been opened up to the community.

As a historical event, and one that will only happen once in our lifetimes, the Centennial of Naval Aviation (CoNA) was deemed an important Navy milestone worthy of a community-wide celebration. So, China Lake will open its airfield and main side to the public for a variety of events in celebration of naval aviation Oct. 14-16, 2011.

Though not officially a Celebration of Naval Aviation event, the weekend will start off with the long-held tradition of the Navy Birthday Ball, Thursday, Oct. 13, also open to the public. Friday, Oct. 14, will officially begin the Celebration weekend with the CoNA Scramble, a shotgun-start golf tournament, followed by a barbecue and entertainment in Solar Park, the heart of China Lake's main side.

On-site activities will continue through Saturday beginning with the CoNA 5K during which registrants will run an all-new fun run course, created just for the Celebration. Later, the airfield will come alive with the bustle of an open house. Food, entertainment, aircraft displays and more will be available for public enjoyment.

The Celebration wraps up with two community events that demonstrate the community of Ridgecrest and surrounding area's support of China Lake and the Navy mission. Saturday night, guests will get to swing dance the night away at a big band era dance at the historic USO Building, themed from China Lake's humble beginnings in the 1940's. The Celebration weekend will close with a pancake breakfast Sunday morning in which memories of the Celebration weekend as well as of China Lake's rich aviation history can be shared before all travel home or go about their day.

Sponsors for the golf

tournament, barbecue, fun run and open house events are still needed. If you are interested in sponsoring these Celebration events, please contact Lindy Page of Morale, Welfare and

Recreation, at (760) 939-2602.

Details and schedules for the Celebration events are still in development and will be available on a forthcoming website. Until then, information

about the China Lake Celebration of Naval Aviation, including the Navy Ball, can be obtained from the NAWS China Lake Public Affairs Office at (760) 939-1683.

Leave Transfer Program

Leave Transfer Program - The employees listed have been approved as leave recipients under the Leave Transfer Program. These employees have exhausted annual and sick leave because of medical emergencies and anticipate being in a leave-without-pay status for at least 24 hours. Employees who wish to help a leave recipient may donate annual leave to the employee by submitting a completed OPM 630-A Request to Donate Annual Leave (Within Agency) form. Send your completed form to Code 731000D Stop 1316, Attn: Madonna Archibeque, or you can fax to 939-1423. For more information regarding the Leave Transfer Program, please call Madonna Archibeque at 939-8103 or DSN 437-8103. The 2011 leave year ends on 1 January 2012.

NAME	CODE	NAME	CODE
Ashley, Thia	475500D	Mendez, Deanna C	71321AD
Baldwin, Barbara	410000D	Merzlak, Melissa M.	N9120WN
Bradney, Nicholas G.	N3AT2WN	Ortega, Christina M.	52742ME
Burchett, Lisa	J10000D	Osman, Eisa H.	474300D
Crapia, Michael D.	NAVFAC	Roberts, Billie Jo	478600D
Giles, Brandy	782000D	Rodriguez, Patricia	658300E
Hiser, Mary Ann	474000D	Rubio, Gerardo	413100D
Jackson, Sonja R	423000D	Smith, Brian K.	784200E
Jenkins, Melissa	685100D	Sparks, Ashley M	410000D
Jones, Donald T.	475100D	Swaney, Allyson A	K00000E
Karnos, John G.	472400D	Tanner, Sarah	451400D
Kenny, Heather L.	782100D	Turbett, Jennifer J.	52J400D
Leonard, Andrea M.	471000D	Wallis, Joanne	414200E
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Ridgecrest REGIONAL HOSPITAL

Press Release



Jim Carr Retires after 50 years in Radiation Science

Ridgecrest, CA (July, 2011). The hospital is losing a long time member of the Radiology staff. Jim Carr has worked in the hospital's Radiology Department for 29 years serving as Radiology Manager and also as Chief Nuclear Medicine Technologist. Jim spent 21 years in the Army before coming to Ridgecrest. He spent most of his Army career at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington DC. He arrived there as a Clinical and Research X-Ray Technologist. He then served in Ethiopia before going to the Army's Nuclear Power Plant Operators Course. He was reassigned to Walter Reed as a Research Nuclear Reactor Operator on both the Walter Reed and the Diamond Ordnance Research Nuclear Reactors. The Army then sent him to the Navy's Nuclear Medicine School and reassigned him again to Walter Reed to run their Nuclear Medicine Department.

He won two Patents there while doing Clinical research, operations and teaching. From Walter Reed he was assigned to be Chief Medical

Sergeant at the hospital in West Berlin. He then became the First Sergeant of the 5th General Hospital in Stuttgart, West Germany. Jim retired from the Army in 1982 and came to Ridgecrest Community Hospital as Chief Nuclear Medicine Technologist. He was promoted to Radiology Manager and held this position for 16 years before moving back into Clinical Nuclear Medicine. As Radiology Department Manager he took the Department through 5 inspections by the Joint Commission and received no deficiencies. He also oversaw purchase and installation of new CT scanners, MRI scanners, Nuclear Medicine scanners, Mammographic equipment and numerous X-Ray and Ultrasound machines. He got national accreditation for the Mammographic and Nuclear Medicine facilities. Jim has taught Resources Management to the hospital staff and serves as the hospital's Radiation Safety Officer. Jim served two terms on the hospital's Foundation Board and was instrumental in purchasing and installing the Tree of Life. He served on numerous hospital committees and Task Forces including as Chairman of the Hospital's Patient Rights Task Force. Jim and his wife Joann plan to stay in Ridgecrest and continue to travel the world. They have two children (Michele and Kenny) and two granddaughters (Alyson and Sydney).

Contact:

Tamara Tilley, Marketing Director

Tamara.Tilley@rrh.org

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Health

A message from Tri-West

Diagnosed? How cancer clinical trials could help

When Ellen Beare learned she had Stage 3 breast cancer, she decided not to tell people at work.

"I just didn't want to be defined by cancer," Beare said.

For many, that sentiment rings very common today. Nearly 12 million Americans were diagnosed with some type of cancer in 2010, according to the National Cancer Institute.

Discovering you or a loved one has cancer, is very difficult. Beare—who is a care coordinator in Tacoma, Wash. for TriWest Healthcare Alliance—struggled the most with telling her son.

"It was probably harder telling him than anything else," Beare said, pausing to keep from crying. "He is my only child."

For those who have received this type of news, TRICARE recently expanded its coverage for cancer clinical trials. This makes

it possible for cancer patients with TRICARE to receive more types of treatments. Beare, who is 63 years old and cancer-free today, is a strong believer in finding a cure.

"Cancer is very real, very prevalent, but with research, there can be a cure," she said.

What does TRICARE cover?

TRICARE covers three types of cancer clinical trials for those who are eligible. These trials test different ways to prevent, detect and treat various cancers. Of the three phases, Phase I trials were recently added as a TRICARE benefit:

- Phase I trials: determine the highest dosage of a drug the body can handle, and the effects that drug has on the body.
- Phase II trials: study the safety and effectiveness of an intervention method on a certain type of cancer and how

that method affects the body.

- Phase III trials: compare promising new treatments to the standard treatments.

How to sign up

To take part in a trial, pre-authorization is needed. If you're TRICARE-eligible, you may be able to take advantage of the cancer clinical trials.

The only exception is active duty service members, who would go through their military clinic instead.

"If clinical trials are available to someone through TRICARE, I would encourage them to get information, just as they should get information on the type of cancer they have and the current treatment options," Beare said.

For more information, or to see about taking part in a trial, contact a TriWest Cancer Clinical Trial Coordinator by calling 1-866-427-6610.

Badges, Front Page

entry by approximately five seconds, the majority of the delays have been due to lack of training on procedures. Delays in excess of 60 seconds have been observed as access cards are retrieved, removed from cases or laminated lanyards, presented, and then returned to the cases prior to moving the vehicle.

To expedite entry, the access card should be free and ready, driver's side window rolled down, and the card presented to the guard immediately upon stopping.

The guard will take the access card for physical inspection. When the card is returned with access granted, begin moving as soon as safely possible without delaying to stow card in the holder.

Short-term mitigation measures will be instituted

as the workforce becomes accustomed to the procedures but there are not enough resources (gates, guards, etc.) to compensate for the prolonged delays in some cases. Cooperation and being prepared are the keys to faster access for all.

Ridgecrest Police Department reminds drivers to obey all traffic laws. Germane to this issue is the use of the center/turn lane of Inyokern Road as a transit lane. Do not go into the center lane on Inyokern Road until AFTER the triangle intersection. Additionally blocking the intersection of Inyokern Rd. and China Lake Blvd. while awaiting base access is illegal.

These base access procedures are most likely permanent in duration and are not subject to local waivers.

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Paradise Café

Bristol Stomp NASCAR BBQ

Saturday, August 27 • 3:30 pm-end of race
Texas Style BBQ beef ribs, BBQ chicken, potato salad, cole slaw, cowboy baked beans, corn on the cob and watermelon.



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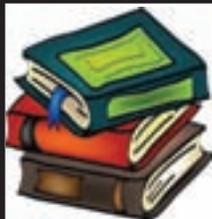
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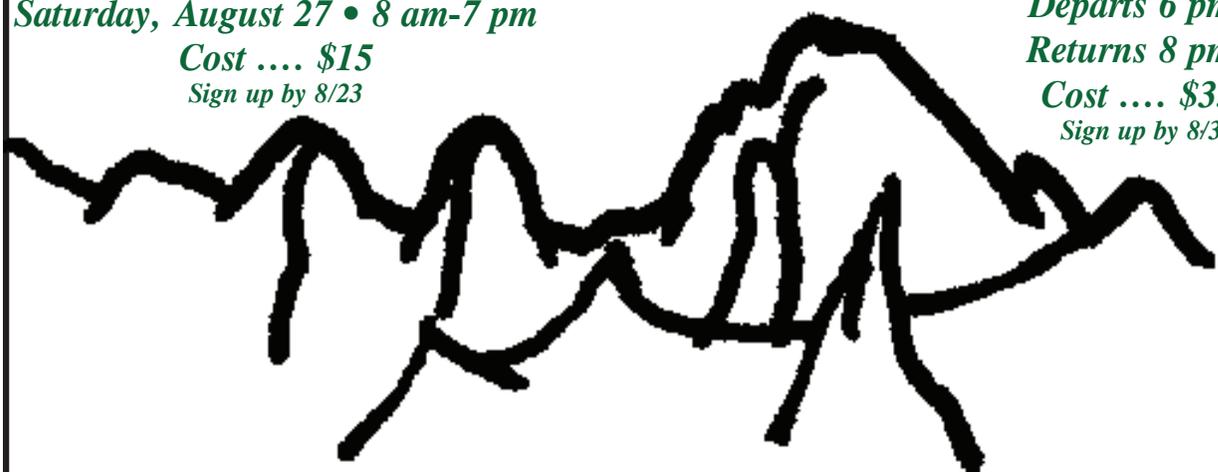
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- Garage & Yard Sales
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- Misc. Wanted

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- Misc. For Sale
- Garage & Yard Sales
- Motorcycles
- Misc. Wanted
- Roommate Wanted
- Rooms For Rent

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| <input type="checkbox"/> APTS FOR RENT | <input type="checkbox"/> ACREAGE |
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The screenshot shows the China Lake News website interface. At the top, it features the "China Lake News" logo and a "Rocketeer II" logo. Below the logos is a search bar and a "my SERVICEPRIDE.COM" banner. The main content area displays several news headlines, including "Will Bernanke's Secret Debt Solution End The Financial Crisis?", "China Lake Fire Department awarded...", and "Pentagon...". On the right side, there is a "MILITARY DIRECTORY" section and a "MyCAA & Military Spouse Friendly" logo.



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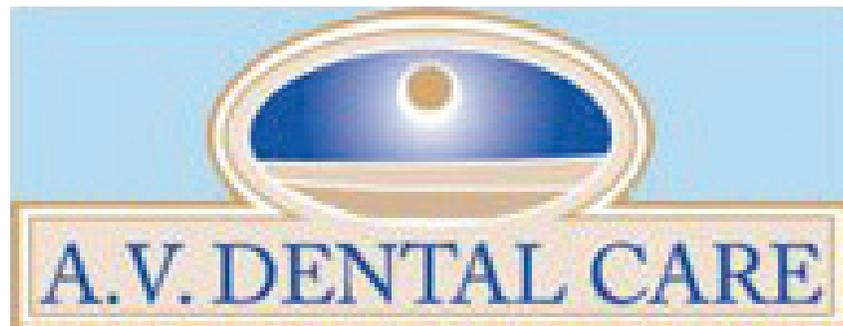
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